

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2446

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

UNCLAS ATHENS 0979

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, GR

SUBJECT: WEEKEND GOG STATEMENTS ON EC COMMISSION REPORT ON
GREEK ACCESSION

1. INFORMAL TRANSLATIONS OF GOG WEEKEND STATEMENTS RELATED TO EC
COMMISSION REPORT ON GREEK ACCESSION AND LOCAL REACTION TO IT
FOLLOW. PARA 2 CONTAINS RELEASE AFTER JANUARY 31 MEETING
IN ATHENS OF PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS WITH EEC MEMBER STATE
AMBASSADORS REGARDING THE EC COMMISSION REPORT. PARA 3
CONTAINS JANUARY 31 STATEMENT DENYING US INVOLVEMENT IN EC COMMISSION
REPORT, OR THE EXISTENCE OF CONDITIONS TIED TO US AID PACKAGE.
PARA 4 CONTAINS SECOND STATEMENT ISSUED FEBRUARY 1, FURTHER
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DENYING US INVOLVEMENT IN EC COMMISSION REPORT

2. STATEMENT AFTER PM'S JANUARY 31 MEETING WITH AMBASSADORS:

"ON AN INVITATION FROM PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS THE AMBASSADORS OF THE NINE EC MEMBERS STATES ARRIVED AT THE POLITICAL OFFICE AT 1000 HOURS TODAY. THE PRIME MINISTER KEPT THE FOREIGN AMBASSADORS FOR FORTYFIVE MINUTES IN ORDER TO FULLY EXPLAIN THE GREEK VIEWS ON THE RECENT RECOMMENDATION OF THE EEC COMMISSION THE TALK OF THE PRIME MINISTER WITH THE COMMON MARKET AMBASSADORS WAS ATTENDED BY COORDINATION AND PLANNING MINISTER PAPALIGOURAS, FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS AND DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S POLITICAL OFFICE AMBASSADOR MOLYVIATIS AS REPORTED, THE PRIME MINISTER PROTESTED AGAINST THE POSITIONS TAKEN BY THE EEC COMMISSION ON THE GREEK REQUEST BECAUSE, AS HE SAID, THESE POSITIONS ARE BASED ON ARGUMENTS WHICH ARE POLITICALLY AND MORALLY UNACCEPTABLE TO GREECE. THE PRIME MINISTER REMINDED THE AMBASSADORS THAT THEIR GOVERNMENTS HAD ENCOURAGED THE SUBMISSION OF THE GREEK REQUEST WITHOUT ATTACHING TO IT ANY CONDITION, A FACT WHICH WAS APPRECIATED BY THE GREEK PEOPLE. HE ALSO EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE EEC MEMBER STATES WOULD CORRECT THE MISTAKE OF THE COMMISSION IN CONCLUSION MR CARAMANLIS STATED THAT GREECE DOES NOT WISH TO FORCE AND CANNOT FORCE ITS ENTRY INTO THE EEC, BUT NEITHER WOULD IT ACCEPT SUCH ENTRY IF IT WERE TO BE CARRIED OUT IN A WAY WHICH WOULD AFFECT THE NATIONAL DIGNITY OF THE NATION."

3. JANUARY 31 STATEMENT DENYING US INVOLVEMENT IN EC COMMISSION REPORT, OR STRINGS ON US AID: "IN REFERENCE TO PRESS REPORTS WHICH MIGHT CREATE CONFUSION, AN AUTHORITATIVE GOVERNMENT SOURCE MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT OF CLARIFICATION:

- A. IT IS NOT TRUE THAT THE GREEK REQUEST FOR EEC MEMBERSHIP WAS RELATED TO THE QUESTION OF NATO DURING ANY STAGE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENTS.
- B. IT IS NOT TRUE THAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT REACTED EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ON THE ENTRY OF GREECE INTO THE EEC
- C. IT IS NOT TRUE THAT AMERICAN AID TO GREECE DEPENDS ON ANY CONDITIONS. PRESIDENT FORD EMPHATICALLY ASSURED PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS THAT THE AID TO BE GRANTED WILL BE WITHOUT CONDITIONS."

4. FEBRUARY 1 FOLLOW-UP STATEMENT ON ALLEGED US INVOLVEMENT IN UNCLASSIFIED

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EC COMMISSION REPORT: "A SECTION OF THE PRESS PERSISTS IN CORRELATING MATTERS THAT BEAR NO RELATION TO EACH OTHER, BY ENGAGING US POLICY RESPONSIBILITY EVEN ON THE QUESTION OF THE EEC COMMISSION REPORT."

"IT IS REPEATED ONCE MORE THAT THERE IS NO INDICATION OF ANY KIND SUGGESTING THAT AMERICAN POLICY IS REACTING, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, TO GREECE'S ENTRY TO THE EEC BESIDES, GREECE'S APPLICATION HAS BEEN SUPPORTED BY AND IT

IS HOPED THAT SUCH SUPPORT WILL CONTINUE FROM EUROPEAN
GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED."
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